

Jurassic World, Canada Style

On April 9, long before the June 12 debut of the *Jurassic World* movie, Canada Post issued a set of five stamps and a souvenir sheet (shown) depicting prehistoric animals that once roamed Canada. Multilevel embossing and holographic foiling used in most of the designs add to the 3-D effect.

The background images are taken from Dinosaur Provincial Park, one of Canada's richest sources of dinosaur fossils. Canada has proven a rich hunting ground for dinosaur remains, with discoveries made from the badlands of Alberta to the Bay of Fundy area. The finds selected for this stamp issue were made in Western Canada and chosen in consultation with the Canadian Museum of Nature.

Left to right, the animals depicted are:

Euoplocephalus tutus, a herb-eater that was known for its spiky, plated armor. Its complex and unusual series of nasal passages may have warmed inhaled air, improved the animal's sense of smell or helped it vocalize.

Ornithomimus edmontonicus, now known to have sported long arm feathers. It used its speed to outrun predators and to hunt for prey, which included small lizards and mammals.

Tyrannosaurus rex, the "tyrant king" of dinosaurs. High school



teacher Robert Gebhardt discovered one of the largest and most complete skeletons of its kind in Saskatchewan in 1991. The skeleton has been nicknamed "Scotty."

Chasmosaurus belli, a relative of the famous Triceratops. Its large frill was supported by a bony framework that was likely used for display,

not defence. A baby *Chasmosaurus* was recently found in Dinosaur Provincial Park. It was less than three years old when it died.

Tylosaurus peminensis, a giant sea-dwelling reptile that could open its jaws wide like a snake and swallow large prey. It patrolled the inland sea that divided North America 80 million years ago. A skeleton displayed at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre in Modern, Manitoba, is the largest mosasaur skeleton on exhibit in the world. Nicknamed "Bruce," the center refers to it as "the T. rex of the sea."

While each stamp frame is 28.5 mm x 28.5 mm, the dinosaurs go beyond those dimensions in varying configurations. The stamps are available in booklets of 10, the souvenir sheet shown and an uncut press sheet of eight souvenir sheets. The cancel image on the Official First Day Cover is that of the *Ornithomimus edmontonicus*. The cancellation site is Drumheller, Alta., home of the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology, one of Canada's most important dinosaur museums.